



The Third Abrahamic Covenant

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 17: 1-27

REVIEW

God made four separate covenants with Abraham in Genesis chapter 15-22.

- **The FIRST covenant promised a specific area of land to Abraham's offspring (Gen 15:18-21)**
- **This offspring (of all of Abraham's 8 sons) would be limited to Sarah's son, Isaac, and his descendants that went into bondage in Egypt (Gen 15:13-14)**

REVIEW (continued)

God made four separate covenants with Abraham in Genesis chapter 15-22.

- **The SECOND covenant was made about 15-20 yrs after the first. This covenant promised:**
 - **Exceeding fruitfulness to Abraham, with nation and kings coming from him (Gen 17:4-6)**
 - **God would eternally be Abraham's God and the God of his (believing) children (Gen 17:7)**
 - **God would give Abraham and his believing descendants the land of "Canaan" for an eternal possession. (cf Rom 4:13, Isa 65:17, II Pet 3:13)**

INTRODUCTION

The first two covenants were **UNCONDITIONAL**.
covenants with Abraham in Genesis chapter 15-22.

- The **THIRD** covenant is the first and only conditional covenant that God made with Abraham

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FIRST TWO COVENANTS AND THE THIRD COVENANT

The physical act of circumcision was called a covenant – Gen 17:9-10

This covenant ONLY involved the physical act of circumcision – Gen 17:14

It was to be kept by Abraham and his offspring through Isaac – Gen 17:9-10,19-21

Disobedience to this covenant caused that male Israelite to be “cut off” from his people – Gen 17:14 (he would not inherit the land promises, nor the promise of God being eternally his God)

THE PARTICIPANTS OF CIRCUMCISION

Abraham – Gen 17:11,24

- Abraham was circumcised after he was saved – Rom 4:11
 - It was an outward seal of his “righteousness by faith”
 - All his seed was circumcised at 8 days old – Gen 17:21a
 - All born in his household (slave children, or those bought with money) were circumcised
 - This covenant of circumcision would be required of Isaac and his seed through Jacob – Gen 17:19-21, cf 28:13-14

CONCLUSION

The covenant of circumcision was for Jews up till the cross of Christ

Today, for believing Jews and Gentiles, “circumcision is NOTHING, but the keeping of the commandments of the law (of Moses)”, which NT grace believers are NOT UNDER!!

- 1 Cor 7:18-19
- Gal 5:6